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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 13 March 1952

SUBJECT Underground Munitions Storage in the
Vicinity of Sinaia.

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1. In 1941, the National Bank of Rumania commissioned the construction of a small underground depository near Sinaia for the safekeeping of State funds in the case of aerial bombardment of the capital. Work was continued for almost the remainder of the war without the project being completed. It was interrupted about 23 August 1944, the date of the Rumanian armistice. The depository, insofar as it had been completed, was used for the storage of valuable materials by the Rumanian mint. The underground construction is located on the Sinaia - Targoviste road almost four kilometers from the point where the Sinaia - Targoviste road leaves the asphalted Sinaia - Ploesti - Bucharest road, that is, at the point where the Sinaia - Targoviste road crosses the Podul Moroenilor bridge and where the Calea Codrului road branches off. The depot is located on the right side of the road going from Sinaia to Targoviste, about 150 meters down the valley from the bridge and about 100 meters up from the road. The underground storage facilities have been greatly enlarged and now have several levels underground. According to reports, trees were to be planted over the spot in order to make it blend in with the surrounding forest of deciduous and coniferous trees so that it would be invisible from above. Preparatory work was carried out under maximum secrecy. The place is strictly guarded and loitering is prohibited in the vicinity of the depot. Civilian employees of the National Bank (now called Banca Republicii Populare Romane - Rumanian Popular Republic Bank) and the mint have been replaced with military personnel. Everything pertaining to the depot, including living quarters for the personnel is underground. The depot will serve for the storage of shells for the antiaircraft battery and for the so-called "V" launching platforms located on the Omul Mountain. The underground depot is located beneath the road which serves the antiaircraft batteries (in two rings) as well as the new road which runs from the top of the Paduchiosul Mountain to the Omul Mountain base. The depot is located in the valley in a most advantageous position, having taken advantage of the

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- 2 -

existing facilities, which were enlarged. Both the Omul bases and the battery will be supplied by a single depot which is well protected, invisible from above and hard to locate. In this way, the projectiles which come from various Rumanian munition plants can be safely stored in a place apart and yet be available where needed. New doubts are raised by these reports regarding the final purpose of the work completed on the Omul Mountain. This latest report raises the question as to whether this is actually to serve as a launching site for "V" type projectiles. The storage of "V" type projectiles in the depot seems proper, since it seems unlikely that ordinary antiaircraft artillery shells would be stored with the great precautions that are taken. It is therefore probable that "V" type projectiles for the Omul base, some distance from the depot, will be stored here. In that case the double cordon of antiaircraft batteries would also protect the underground depot, which in any case is little exposed to aerial attack.

2. A full storage depot is under construction at Timisul de Jos by the Rumanian Air Force. It is located on the right side of the Stalin (Brasov) national highway going toward Bucharest. Opposite the former Theil trout hatchery there is an underground depot with railroad connections which will serve the military airport at Stalin. This entire area is heavily guarded.

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